

CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
June 19, 2002
ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

The meeting of the California High-Speed Rail Authority was called to order on June 19, 2002 at 10:20 a.m. at Anaheim City Hall, 200 South Anaheim Boulevard, Anaheim, California.

Members Present: Rod Diridon, Chairperson
Leland Wong, Vice Chairperson
Dr. Ernest A. Bates
Jerry Epstein
William E. Leonard
Joseph E. Petrillo

Members Absent: Ben L. Hom
Fran Florez
T.J. Stapleton

Public Comment

Frank Feldhaus, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Anaheim

Mr. Feldhaus welcomed the Authority to Anaheim and expressed satisfaction in working with the Authority. He reported the City of Anaheim looks forward to serving as a key station and destination for the proposed high-speed rail service. Mr. Feldhaus stated high-speed rail is vital to the continued development of regional and statewide economic competitiveness. High-speed rail is of national significance, as it would reduce the congestion on highways, aviation, and rail systems. He expressed support for a station location at Edison Field.

Shirley McCracken, Councilmember, City of Anaheim

Councilmember McCracken stated she also is a member of Orange County Transportation Authority and Southern California Association of Governments. Therefore she is concerned about transportation issues for the entire region. Councilmember McCracken expressed her satisfaction in the Authority meeting in Anaheim and hopes to share concerns and issues through her part in the City of Anaheim Station Planning.

Ralph Bauer, Councilmember, City of Huntington Beach

Councilmember Bauer also serves as Chairperson of the Orange Division of the California League of Cities. Councilmember Bauer expressed his support for the proposed high-speed rail system.

Susan Ritschel, Councilmember, San Clemente

Councilmember Ritschel stated she also serves as the First Vice President, Orange Division of the California League of Cities. Councilmember Ritschel expressed her support for the proposed high-speed rail system. She also expressed serious concerns over the incremental improvements being proposed in Orange County.

Members Reports

Member Epstein reported he met with Tom Ridge, Director of U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Director Ridge expressed interest and enthusiasm in the proposed California high-speed rail project.

Chairperson Diridon reported on his trip to Washington D.C. While in Washington, D.C., Chairperson Diridon and Executive Director Morshed met with Chairman Young and Ranking Member Oberstar of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; Congressmembers

Filner; Tauscher; Honda; staff of Congressmember Pelosi and staff of Senators Boxer and Feinstein. They also met with the House and Senate Appropriations Committee Staff. Chairperson Diridon stated the meetings were very productive and all the Legislators indicated support of the proposed California high-speed rail project.

Chairperson Diridon reported on the High Speed Ground Transportation Association Annual Conference held in Orlando, Florida. Chairperson Diridon, Executive Director Morshed and Deputy Director Carrie Pourvahidi attended the conference and delivered presentations to the participants.

City of Anaheim Station Planning

City of Anaheim Councilmember Shirley McCracken gave an overview of the Anaheim Station Planning presentation and introduced John Lower, Traffic & Transportation Manager of the City of Anaheim. Mr. Lower presented plans for the Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Station to the Board as an information item and described how high-speed trains could serve this facility. Mr. Charles Awllers, President of the Anaheim/Orange County Visitor and Convention Bureau presented tourism facts. A copy of this presentation is available upon request.

Approval of Minutes for May 15, 2002 Meeting

Chairperson Diridon presented the minutes for approval. Member Epstein moved to approve the May 15, 2002 meeting minutes. Member Leonard seconded the motion, which carried 6-0.

Authority Members' Meetings for Compensation

Chairperson Diridon presented the list of meetings for compensation for approval. Member Epstein moved to approve the list of meetings for compensation. Member Leonard seconded the motion, which carried 6-0.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Morshed reported on the status of the Authority's FY 2002-2003 budget, as proposed by Governor Davis. The proposed budget has passed both the Senate and Assembly and is now in Conference Committee.

Executive Director Morshed reported on proposed and pending legislation pertaining to the Authority.

- SB1856, authored by Senators Costa, Burton, Figueroa, Karnette, Kuehl and Soto. This bill would provide for the issuance of a \$9 billion general obligation revenue bond for the purpose of funding the planning and construction of a high-speed train system in California. This bill would provide for the submission of the bond act to the voters for approval and would require a 50% match of funds by the Federal government. This bill was amended to include the dollar amount of the bond. This bill will be presented before the Assembly Transportation Committee.
- SB1799, authored by Senator Poochigian. This bill would require that not less than 2 members of the authority be residents of the San Joaquin Valley. This bill was passed by the Senate and is pending in the Assembly.

Executive Director Morshed reported on the draft agreement between the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and the Authority for a \$1.25 million federal grant. The final cooperative agreement has been executed and the Authority issued a notice to proceed to all its contractors June 1, 2002. Therefore, the next phase of work has already started.

Executive Director Morshed reported the Authority received a Public Records Act request from the City of Palmdale. A response will be provided.

Executive Director Morshed reported the Authority's statute requires a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson be elected annually. Elections took place last year, on August 1st. Therefore, the Board may instruct staff to include the Election of Officers on the agenda of the next Board Meeting, which is scheduled July 17th. The Board directed staff to include the Election of Officers on the agenda of the next Board Meeting.

City of Irvine Station Planning

Jon Toolson, Project Development Administrator of the City of Irvine presented plans for the Irvine Transportation Center and described how high-speed trains could serve this facility to the Board as an information item. A copy of this presentation is available upon request.

System Alternatives Definition

Executive Director Morshed provided background information on the description of system alternatives to be included in the draft program EIR/EIS and discussed the importance of the no-build and modal alternatives in the draft document. Kip Field, Project Manager of Parsons Brinckerhoff also discussed the importance of the no-build and modal alternatives and presented a conceptual description of the system alternatives. A copy of this presentation is available upon request.

Los Angeles-Orange County-San Diego (LOSSAN) Corridor Update

Deputy Director Dan Leavitt gave an overview of the LOSSAN Corridor Update and introduced Patrick Merrill, Program Manager of the California Department of Transportation. Mr. Merrill presented a summary of the scoping meetings held in April 2002. Steve Schibuola, Project Manager of IBI Group presented an update of the technical studies being done in the LOSSAN corridor.

Public Comment

John S. Gelff, Mayor Pro Tem, City of San Juan Capistrano

Mr. Gelff expressed his support of high-speed rail. He also expressed his concerns relating to double tracking in the Southern California coastal communities. Mr. Gelff clarified that the cities he represents are in support of the proposed high-speed rail project, but do have concerns about double tracking in the Southern California coastal communities.

Kirk Schnieder, Train Riders Association of California

Mr. Schnieder stated that the Authority and Caltrans should work with the cities in the South County to come up with an alternative that would allow double tracking, beach access, and pedestrian safety improvements. He also expressed concern about some of the proposed inland options being very costly during a time when resources are limited.

Identification of Date and Location of Next Meeting

The next Authority Board meeting is scheduled on July 17, 2002 in San Jose, CA.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.